



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
OFFICE OF THE STATE BUDGET  
LANSING

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 29, 2004

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## **Governor Granholm Signs Budgets that Support Health Care, Children & Families, Public Safety, and the Environment**

LANSING – Governor Jennifer M. Granholm signed into law fiscal year 2005 appropriations bills for the Departments of Community Health, Corrections, Education, Natural Resources, State Police, and the Family Independence Agency.

“Once again, we have managed to reach our goal of protecting critical health care services; preserving our precious natural resources; and enhancing public safety efforts despite difficult economic conditions,” said Governor Granholm.

### **Community Health**

The Department of Community Health’s budget for the coming fiscal year contains \$10.2 billion, \$2.5 billion general fund. Senate Bill 1063 appropriates \$7 billion to support the Medicaid program, which provides health care for over 1.4 million low-income citizens of Michigan. The bill also includes over \$2.3 billion to support mental health and substance abuse services and over \$544 million for other public health and aging programs.

“Even though the impact of federal policies continue to siphon precious dollars away from Michigan, I am proud that we were able to continue vital health care programs for our citizens,” said Governor Granholm.

### **Corrections**

The budget for the Department of Corrections includes \$1.79 billion in funding for fiscal year 2005. Senate Bill 1064 provides \$1.2 billion to imprison the state's most dangerous felons; adds \$2.3 million to hire additional parole and probation officers; and contains \$3.5 million in funding for a female parolee residential program that will avert the need to construct additional prison space for female inmates.

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Lastly, the legislation establishes a new provision for Hepatitis C testing and treatment. Funding of \$1.2 million will be used to test for and treat this disease among the inmate population. By controlling the disease among the inmate population, the state is taking great strides at addressing what could otherwise become a public health issue for all Michigan citizens.

### **Education**

The fiscal year 2005 budget for the Department of Education totals \$113.5 million, \$26.4 million of which is general fund. Senate Bill 1065 supports the administration of early intervention efforts for academically at-risk children, special education programs, and teacher certification programs. Grants for school breakfast programs and school readiness preschool programs are also included in the department's budget. When added with the School Aid budget, which awaits the Governor's signature, the state will spend over \$12.6 billion on education next year.

### **Family Independence Agency**

The fiscal year 2005 budget for the Family Independence Agency includes \$4.3 billion, \$1.1 billion general fund, to enhance the safety, well-being, and independence of Michigan's children and families. House Bill 5516 fully funds projected caseloads for critical family support programs including the Family Independence Program (\$386.6 million); State Disability Assistance Program (\$34.7 million); and Child Day Care Services (\$491.7 million). The legislation also commits \$2.1 million in additional funds to increase the clothing allowance to \$44 per year and expand it to include all children on assistance. Additionally, there is over \$615 million for the Foster Care, Child Care Fund, and Adoption Subsidies programs to provide children with caring families and safe homes. The budget reflects a rate increase of 1% to parents and 3% to agencies. Lastly, there is a \$126.9 million increase in the Food Assistance Program to offer extended benefits, through a federal waiver, to childless adults unable to find work.

### **Natural Resources**

Senate Bill 1068 contains \$264.3 million, \$28.9 million of general fund, for a wide variety of recreational and conservation activities available to the public, including over \$50 million for parks and recreation and over \$40 million for management of forests. In addition, the

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fiscal year budget for the Department of Natural Resources includes \$17.6 million for the payment in lieu of taxes program and an additional \$1 million in Snowmobile Trail Improvement Funds for local snowmobile grants.

**State Police**

House Bill 5526 appropriates \$475.8 million, \$244.4 general fund, to support the law enforcement efforts within the Department of State Police. The fiscal year 2005 budget includes a \$1 million increase in funding for the DNA analysis program to assist in reducing the backlog of DNA cases awaiting analysis. The legislation also provides \$150,000 for the Public Safety Officer Benefit Act, which will benefit the families of public safety officers who die or are disabled due to injuries sustained in the line of duty.

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